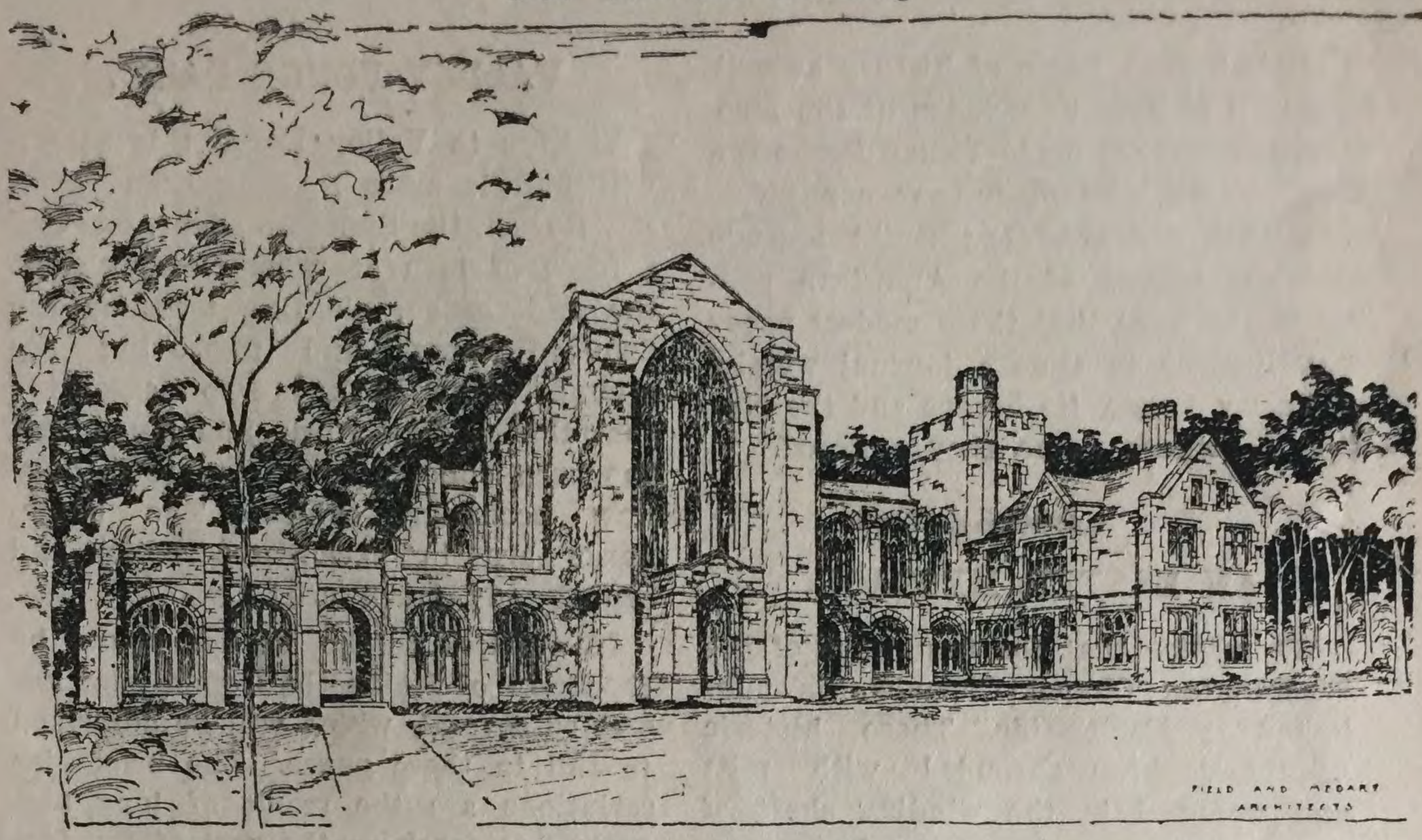
"For God and Country."



Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory.

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England —is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

25 Cents a Year; Single Copies 3 Cents.

Application has been made to have this paper entered at the post office at Valley Forge, Pa., as second class matter, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

VOL. I. APRIL 15, 1908 NO. 1

GREETING.

In entering the field of journalism, the Washington Chapel Guild is acting upon the suggestion of its President, Mrs. Charles Walker, who felt that a parish paper would be of the greatest value in keeping the members of the congregation informed of the progress made from month to month in this growing mission. In working out this suggestion the scope of the Chronicle has been greatly extended. While the original purpose will be carried out, the parish items will be only one feature of the paper, which will be devoted to the history and development of Valley Forge. Our effort will be to make it a record of religion and patriotism, to chronicle the events which mark the growth of the Chapel congregation, the steps in the erection of the memorial buildings, and the progress made by the Valley Forge Park Commission in carrying out its plans for the preservation of the famous camp ground and the marking of the historic sites, and

to publish such items of history as will lead to a greater knowledge of the men whose sufferings made Valley Forge the most sacred ground in our country.

In this endeavor the Guild appeals for the support of the American people in the hope that these modest pages may become in time a journal worthy of Valley Forge, its heroes and the Nation in whose name they suffered.

AN EASTER MESSAGE.

We rejoice that the first issue of the Washington Chapel Chronicle is published at Easter-tide. These historic hills have been shrouded with mist and wrapped in the winding sheet of snow. But now the spring has come. Nature's resurrection call has been heard, and already the woods are putting on the vesture of life. All around us are the promises of a beauty and a life more glorious than we have known.

So in our work we have felt the power of the Resurrection. Souls buried beneath the cares of this world have heard the call to life and have been thrilled with the breath of the Spirit. New life, new visions, new aspirations, new consecration, new service,—these tell of the power of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and the mighty power of His spiritual resurrection.

Being partakers in this with you we are more bold to preach the Gospel of the Resurrection. With confidence we look forward to the great Easter, rejoicing that each day's dawn brings us nearer to that blessed hour. May our prayers, our lives and our work be filled with the spirit of preparation, and may the joy and peace of this Eastertide be to us the earnest of that blessed time when all the Church of Christ will keep its Easter with the Lord of Life.

W. Herbert Burk,
Francis T. H. Finn.

VALLEY FORGE PARK.

Visitors to Valley Forge this season will find it more inviting than ever. Mr. Bowen, the Superintendent, has had a force of men at work clearing out the underbrush, planting trees on the denuded slopes, and improving the grounds. The Park is so extensive that this is slow work, and much that has been done in former years is only now becoming evident. The boulevards are in excellent condition and are already much used.

In addition to the marker placed by the State of Maine the Commission has erected several, which will be described in full in these pages. The brief inscriptions are the result of long and patient research on the part of Dr. Jordan, and of the thousands who will read them few will appreciate the labor involved in their preparation. But they will be enduring records of the men of Valley Forge.

The ground in front of Washington's headquarters has been acquired by the Commission, which will now remove the forlorn ruins which have disfigured the slope to Valley Creek. It is to be hoped that in tearing down the paper mill there may be discovered some of the foundations of the grist mill which was operated by Isaac Potts. One of the French officers said it was used by Washington as his headquarters. It was burned in 1843.

"Modest in the midst of pride, wise in the midst of folly, calm in the midst of passion, cheerful in the midst of gloom, steadfast among the wavering, hopeful among the despondent, bold among the timid, prudent among the rash, generous among the selfish, true among the faithless, greatest among good men, and best among the great, such was George Washington at Valley Forge."—Henry Armitt Brown.

THE PEWS OF THE PATRIOTS.

THE RICHARD CURRIE PEW

The seventh of the "Pews of the Patriots" has been placed in the Chapel. This is pew No. 11, and is given in memory of Richard Currie. It bears the following inscription:

To the Glory of God
and in Memory of
Richard Currie,
Born 1750;
Died September 16, 1776,
Son of the
Reverend William Currie
Rector of
St. David's Church, Radnor,
from 1737 to 1785
who gave three Sons to the
Cause of American Independence,
of whom Richard Currie
served in the Pennsylvania Militia
and was among the first to
die for his Country.
This pew is given by
his Descendants
A. D. 1908.

This pew is interesting not only on account of the local history which it recalls, but for its witness to a phase of the War of the Revolution which is not well-known. In the church yard by old St. David's, Radnor, are the graves of Richard Currie, Hannah Potts Currie, his wife, and Lucy Currie, the second wife of the old rector of St. David's. The three were victims of Camp fever, the women dying within nine days of each other. In the camp nearby the death rate was so high that burials were made without the usual honors of war. The three orphan children of Richard and Hannah Currie, were cared for by their grandfather, the Rev. William Currie.

Being a missionary of the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel, and feeling himself bound by his oaths of allegiance, he resigned his mission at the beginning of hostilities, and lived with his daughter near Valley Forge. That he was no Tory is shown by the following deposition preserved in the archives of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania:

An acct of ye damages Sustained by ye Subscriber from ye British Army. 15 Nov., 1782.

On ye 19th of Septr 1777, a Company of Soldiers from ye Camp came to my House & rob'd me of all my Cabbages, bacon, Cheese & butter, a bushel of fine Salt: & of five Sheets Table linen five Shirts Shifts head dresses Stockins & a Table Silverspoon to ye value of 20 lb Specie. There is a strong presumption likewise that at ye same time they rob'd me of 200 lb. Continental money in Sheets.

And ye day following a forraging party took from me two waggon loads of Oats one ditto of Wheat, besides several Horse loads of both; a good Cart & Geers; all my waggon & plow Geers, Collars blind halters, & ropes; two half worn mens saddles & three bridles; all which I judge to be worth 20 lb. Specie; ye truth of all which I will be qualified to. But as to ye Continental money, tho' there is a strong presumption, as they certainly carried off a File of Newspapers, upon which ye Sheets had been strung some days before; yet as it is possible that somebody might have taken them off ye File before that day, I do not find Freedom to Swear.

WILLM CURRIE.

Of the other sons, Ross Currie was 1st Lieutenant in Captain John Reese's Company, 2d Battalion, and Dr. William Currie was surgeon in Colonel Samuel J. Atlee's Musketry Battalion.

A COLORADO PEW.

Colorado will be the first of the western States to be represented at Valley Forge. The Colorado Society Daughters of the Revolution will give one of the "Pews of the Patriots."

THE WILLIAM DEWEES PEW.

The William Dewees Pew is ready to be shipped to the Chapel and we hope to give some account of it in our next number.

EVACUATION DAY.

A celebration extending over two days will mark the 130th anniversary of the Evacuation of Valley Forge. On the 19th of June the Maryland Bay in the "Cloister of the Colonies" will be dedicated, and on the 20th the equestrian statue of General Wayne will be unveiled.

The piano given by the children of the late Mr. and Mrs. Winfield S. Wilson is a great help in the Sunday School work. The organ was worn out, beyond the hope of repair.

GIFTS.

Mrs. Annie E. Holmes, of Norristown, has given the Chapel an excellent photograph of Bishop Phillips Brooks.

Mr. Winfield S. Pynch, of Norristown, has contributed mementoes of battle fields of the Civil War.

THE PATRIOTS' HALL.

EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN WARS.

Valley Forge Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Mrs. Howland N. Brown, Regent, held a most successful Exhibition of American Wars in All Saints' Parish House, Norristown, on February 17, 18 and 19. The Chapter was able to exhibit a very large collection of most interesting relics, covering all periods of American history from the earliest Indian civilization to the present day. In addition to the individual exhibits, ranging from one to a dozen articles, there were the collections belonging to General S. K. Zook Post, No. 11, G. A. R., including the Holstein collection, and those of Mr. George H. Anders, Mr. Joseph Fornance, Mr. Malcolm Weber, Mr. William Watt, Mr. James S. Boyd, Mr. Paul Roberts, Rev. W. Herbert Burk, Mrs. Margaret Hunsicker, Dr. H. S. Borneman, Dr. Henry Marshall, Mrs. E. M. Geiger, Mr. D. M. Ellis, Mrs. S. Gordon Smythe, Mr. Rush B. Smith, Mr. William E. Montague, Mrs. Charles Lukens, Mrs. Reese P. Davis, Mrs. Sarah Hite Tyson, Dr. Sarah Fitzwater Tyson, Mr. Ambrose B. Umstead and Miss Maud Miller. The Chapel made a very good showing with its Mary Regina Brice Collection, its Washingtoniana, the Rev. Jesse Y. Burk collection, and its books, maps, pictures and other articles which form the nucleus of the Valley Forge Museum of American History.

The proceeds of the Exhibition will be used to purchase relics for the Museum. These will be marked as the gift of the Chapter.

FOUNDER'S CERTIFICATES.

A design for the Founders' Certificates is now being made and it is probable that these will be mailed to contributors before the next issue. As the erection of the Patriots' Hall will be a work of the most patriotic character it has been deemed wise to enroll the names of the donors in a special book to be called the Book of the Founders and to give to each one contributing the sum of one dollar a Founders' Certificate as a receipt. If possible the names of the Founders will be published in the Chronicle.

MEMORIALS.

The Rev. W. Herbert Burk has presented to the Chapel a Washington Letter in memory of his wife, Abbie J. R. Burk, who was deeply interested in the Chapel and all that related to its success. The letter is one of the last written at Valley Forge.

THE CLOISTER OF THE COLONIES

THE MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

The Sons of the American Revolution of Massachusetts have appropriated $500 towards the erection of the Massachusetts Bay, and a Committee is now engaged in raising the balance. Meanwhile the foundations have been built, so there will be no delay in completing the Bay.

THE NEW YORK BAY.

The New York Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Mrs. Henry L. Roberts, Regent, has taken action in regard to the erection of the New York Bay. Mrs. Wood, Regent of the Bronx Chapter, offered the resolutions pledging the Society's support to this commendable work. This is not the first time that an effort has been made to have New York represented in the Cloister. Another Society considered the matter, but was unable at the time to secure the money required. It is to be hoped that the Daughters will be more successful.

PARISH REGISTER.

BAPTISMS.

January 4, 1908. Anna Jane Gebhart.

January 4, 1908. Catherine Rebecca Sherrod.

January 9, 1908. (Mrs.) Martha (Taggart) Stephens.

January 31, 1908. Tacy Hallowell Brooke.

February 1, 1908. (Mrs.) Mary Emily (Pechin) Pechin.

March 21, 1908. John McIntyre.

March 21, 1908. Daniel McIntyre.

March 21, 1908. Adra Anna McIntyre.

March 21, 1908. Elmer Ellsworth McIntyre.

March 21, 1908. Luella McIntyre.

March 31, 1908. George Albert McIntyre.

CONFIRMATIONS.

Confirmed on February 2, 1908, by the Rt. Rev. Alexander Mackay-Smith, D. D.:

Mrs. Lidie (McFarland) Anderson.
Anna Catharine Andrews.
Elizabeth Clarinda Baldwin.
Tacy Hallowell Brooke.
Edna Fisher.
William Matthews Fulton.
Mrs. Isabel (Kalt) Haws.
Henry Richard Hoisington.
Henry Richard Hoisington, Jr.
Howard Loomis Hoisington.
Mrs. Anna (Roats) Hughes.
John Jonah Hughes.
Mrs. Athalia Lucilla (Walker) Kendall.
Emma McFarland.
Mrs. Mary Emily (Pechin) Pechin.
Mary Pugh.
Mrs. Martha (Taggart) Stephens.
Jane Ann Stoddart.
Mrs. Annie (Morgan) Wren.

BURIALS.

January 10, 1908. Philip Ewing.
February 12, 1908. I. Heston Todd.

Contributions for Building Fund.

Charles W. Comfort, Treasurer.
March, 1908.

COLORADO.

S. S. St. Paul's Church, Montrose $ .60

CONNECTICUT.

S. S. Trinity Church, Southport 1.50

KANSAS.

Goodlands 1.00

KENTUCKY.

Miss H. B. Audubon, Louisville 1.90

MASSACHUSETTS.

S. S. Church of the Ascension, Boston 4.87

Mr. Arthur E. Pearson, Roxbury Endowment, John Benjamin Tablet 50.00

MISSOURI.

S. S. St. Paul's Church, Palmyra .50

S. S. Christ Church, St. Joseph 1.94

NEW JERSEY.

S. S. St. Paul's Church, Paulsboro .... .25

NEW YORK.

S. S. St. Simeon's Church, Stapleton 1.56
Mr. Frederick L. Manning, Waterloo 1.00
Mr. W. Crawford Ramsdall, Albion 1.00
S. S. Grace Church, Cortland ... 1.47

PENNSYLVANIA.

Diocesan Branch, Woman's Auxiliary 15.00
S. S. Christ Church, Upper Merion 5.00
Mr. Clark Evans, Susquehanna.. 1.00
Mr. C. Fred Wright, Susquehanna 1.00
Mr. H. D. Carey, Jermyn 1.00
Mr. Chas. E. Jones, Nanticoke.. 1.00
Mr. Irwin Shupp, Philadelphia.. 25.00

$115.69

THE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Mrs. S. S. Zulich, Treasurer.

Amount of Fund, March 1, 1908. $528.73
Received from the Treasurer, the John Benjamin Fund on account of the John Benjamin Tablet 50.00

$578.73

MEMORIAL ARCHWAYS.

The Hon. Irving P. Wanger has introduced into Congress a bill appropriating $50,000 for the erection of two memorial archways at the entrances of the Valley Forge Park. On March 16 the House Committee on Library considered the bill and heard those in favor of the appropriation. Congressman Wanger made an eloquent appeal for the erection of these archways by the Nation, which has done nothing for Valleg Forge. Mr. William H. Sayen, the President of the Valley Forge Park Commission, gave an account of the work done by the State of Pennsylvania and urged a favorable action on the part of the Committee. Congressman Goulden, of New York, heartily endorsed what had been said by Mr. Wanger and Mr. Sayen, and told of his visit to Valley Forge and the impression made by what he saw. The Rev. W. Herbert Burk told of the widespread interest in Valley Forge as he had learned it in his work for the Washington Memorial Chapel and urged the appropriation as one that would meet with popular favor. The members of the Committee showed the greatest interest in the subject and the Commission hopes for a favorable report.

The subject was fully discussed later at a luncheon given by Mr. Wanger, at which the guests were: Mr. Joseph G. Cannon, Speaker of the House; Mr. James A. Tawney, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations; Messrs. Washington Gardner and Walter I. Smith, of the same Committee; Mr. Samuel W. McCall, Chairman of the Committee on Library, and Messrs. E. L. Hamilton and Charles R. Thomas, of the Library Committee; Mr. Sereno E. Payne, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and Mr. John Dalzell, of the same Committee; Mr. John A. Goulden, of New York; Mr. H. C. Loudenslager, of New Jersey; Mr. Sayen and Mr. Hartranft, of the Commission, and the Rev. Mr. Burk. Mr. J. P. Conner and Mr. William M. Howard, of the Library Committee, were unable to accept Mr. Wanger's invitation.

The archways are to be memorials of Washington and Steuben, and will be placed at the entrance near the headquarters and at the entrance from the Port Kennedy road, near the site of Muhlenberg's brigade.

"The character of Washington in war, in peace and in private life is the most sublime on historical record."—William H. Prescott.

Washington Memorial Chapel,

Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK
MINISTER IN CHARGE,
ALL SAINTS RECTORY, NORRISTOWN.

THE REV. FRANCIS T. H. FINN
ASSISTANT,
PORT KENNEDY.

Mr. Frank Quigg, Treasurer,
Port Kennedy, Pa.
George Rumford, Sexton.

Sundays.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Second Sunday of the month, 10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Stewart Fund Hall

Sundays.

10.00 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

11.00 A. M. Service and Sermon.

Calendar.

Thursday before Easter, 7.30 p. m., Holy Communion and Sermon.

Good Friday, 10.00 a. m., Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

Saturday before Easter. Choir rehearsal, 2 o'clock.

Service, 5 o'clock. Rev. W. H. Burbank, Rector of St. Peter's Church, Phoenixville, Dean of the Convocation of Norristown.

EASTER DAY.

10.30 A. M. Service, Sermon and Holy Communion.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Class.

3.45 P. M. Easter Festival of the Sunday Schools of the Missions.

7.00 P. M. Service and Sermon in Stewart Fund Hall.

Special Service, Stewart Fund Hall Wednesday, April 22d, 3.15 P. M. Rev. Royden Keith Yerkes, Rector of St. John the Evangelist's Church. Theme, "Faith."

Martha Washington Guild meets Saturdays at 2 o'clock at the Parish Building.

The regular meeting of the Guild of the Washington Memorial Chapel, Wednesday, May 6th, at 2.30 P. M., at the Parish Building.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Convocation of Norristown will be held at St. Paul's, Ogontz, at two o'clock. Mrs. Grill will address the meeting. A cordial invitation to attend the meeting is extended to all members of the Auxiliary.

The Guilds will be pleased to take orders for dust cloths, aprons, dust caps, etc.

The Bartman Club meets on Saturdays at 2 P. M. It has a membership of twenty-six boys. Motto: (1) No cheating. (2) No swearing. (3) Speak true. (4) For Jesus.

Their base ball grounds lie back of the chapel. They will play two games on the Saturday after Easter with the All Saints' boys, of Norristown. Officers: President, David M. Beynon; Vice President, Joseph McMullin; Secretary, William Colgan; Treasurer, Rev. F. T. H. Finn.

The chapel work is carried on by the following organizations, which are always glad to receive new members:

The Choir, the Sunday School, The Woman's Auxiliary, The Washington Memorial Chapel Guild, The Martha Washington Junior Guild, The Boys' Club, "The Bartram."

A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend our services.

Everyone who worships regularly in the Chapel is requested to contribute to its support by using the weekly envelopes for current expenses.

PARISH NOTES.

Mr. Norris D. Wright has given some benches for the grove and base ball field.

The beautiful palms with which the Chapel was decorated on Palm Sunday were loaned by Mrs. J. R. Tindle.

The Guild expects to give a Rummage Sale later in the Spring. Please bear this in mind in your "Spring housecleaning."

A Missionary Tea was given the Guild by its President, Mrs. Charles Walker, on Friday, April 10th. After a hymn and short prayers, the Rev. Mr. Finn gave a very appropriate and entertaining talk. The usual cheery optimism and strong unity of the Guild in all its work characterized it in its social gathering. Two new members were added to the list and we wish to extend a cordial invitation to all interested in the Chapel to join us in our work.

We are indebted to the following clergy for their helpful sermons delivered during Lent at the Chapel and at the Hall: Rev. Hibbert P. Roche, Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration, Philadelphia; Rev. George Sherman Keller, Curate of St. Philip's Church, Philadelphia; Rev. G. Berkeley Griffith, Rector of Trinity Memorial Church, Ambler; Rev. Francis Jones Clark, Rector of St. Barnabas's Church, Reading; Rev. William H. Graff, Vicar, Church of the Holy Comforter, Philadelphia; Rev. Harvey S. Fisher, Rector of St. John's Church, Norristown; Rev. Archibald Bradshaw, Rector of Calvary Church, Conshohocken. Mr. Ewing L. Miller, Treasurer of the Diocese, visited the Chapel on April 4, and made a most interesting address. The Rev. W. H. Burbank, Dean of the Convocation, will preach the sermon on April 18.

THE COLONIAL SUPPER.

A Colonial Supper was given under the auspices of the Guild in the Parish Building, February 22d. The approach to the Chapel resembled the encampment of the famous days of '77-'78. A huge camp-fire was burning, around which gathered the band in its uniforms, armed this time with musical instruments rather than guns and bayonets; horses were tied to the neighboring trees, lending a military air to the scene, and a general tone of fun and good fellowship was dominant. It is no exaggeration to say that there were fully four hundred people there. The supper lasted from five until eight o'clock, followed by a patriotic service in the Chapel, at which the address was made by the Rev. R. Marshall Harrison. The Guild is thinking of making this supper an annual occurrence, and the enthusiastic support given it by its friends far and near seems ample proof that its success would be assured.

IN MEMORIAM.

Those desiring to make gifts in memoriam should consult the Rev. Mr. Burk. At present there are several opportunities for such gifts, among them three of great historic value involving the expenditure of $25, $40 and $150.

IMPORTANT.

In order to take advantage of the low rates of postage on newspapers we must have a certified list of subscribers. Therefore every subscription will help pay the printer and enable us to save on the item of postage. If you are not a subscriber we hope that you will speedily become one and will see that your friends are receiving the Chronicle. Send your subscriptions to Mrs. Robert Wood, Valley Forge, Pa. All subscriptions begin with the first number.